

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUN 4 1979

DATE ENTERED AUG 10 1979

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Main Street Historic District
AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Main Street
CITY, TOWN Damariscotta VICINITY OF First
STATE Maine CODE 23 COUNTY Lincoln CODE 015

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Multiple ownership (see continuation sheet)
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN VICINITY OF STATE

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Lincoln County Registry of Deeds
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Wiscasset, STATE Maine

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Main Street Historic District in Damariscotta, Maine, is comprised of twenty-four architecturally significant buildings. These buildings, primarily commercial in nature, are cohesive in terms of their placement along a single village street, and for the most part date from the period 1845-1857, since a fire destroyed most of the town's commercial area in 1845. The buildings are not only well maintained, but they are also little altered from their original state. With one exception. 20th-century construction has been very careful to seek compatibility in scale and materials with the older buildings.

Buildings contributing to the character of the district:

1. Professional Building: 1949, Colonial Revival, 2 stories, frame with brick facing on first story.
2. W. M. Hilton Block: by 1857 (c.1846), Greek Revival, 3½ stories, brick with wood and granite trim.
3. Waite Keene Block: by 1857 (c.1846), Greek Revival, 2½ stories, brick with wood and stone trim.
4. Abner Stetson Block: by 1857 (c.1846), Greek Revival, 2½ stories, brick with wood and granite trim.
5. Metcalf-Stetson Block: by 1857 (c.1846), Greek Revival 3½ stories, brick with wood and granite trim.
6. Moses Chase Block: by 1857 (c.1846), Greek Revival, 3½ stories, brick with wood and granite trim.
8. Furlong Building: late 19th century, 2½ stories, frame with clapboard siding.
9. Turner Building: late 19th century, 2½ stories, frame with clapboard siding.
10. Masonic Block: by 1857 (c.1846), Greek Revival, 3½ stories, brick with wood and granite trim.
11. Store: late 19th century (after 1878), 1½ stories, frame with clapboard siding.
12. Store: late 19th century (after 1878), 1½ stories, frame with clapboard siding.
13. William Metcalf Livery Stable: late 19th century (after 1878), 2½ stories, frame with clapboard siding.
14. Page Block: c.1850, Greek Revival, 1 story, frame with clapboard siding.
15. Matthew Cottrill House: 1801, Federal, 2 stories, frame with clapboard siding (N.R. 5/ 2/74).

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
___PREHISTORIC	___ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	___COMMUNITY PLANNING	___LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	___RELIGION
___1400-1499	___ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	___CONSERVATION	___LAW	___SCIENCE
___1500-1599	___AGRICULTURE	___ECONOMICS	___LITERATURE	___SCULPTURE
___1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	___EDUCATION	___MILITARY	___SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
___1700-1799	___ART	___ENGINEERING	___MUSIC	___THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	___EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	___PHILOSOPHY	___TRANSPORTATION
___1900-	___COMMUNICATIONS	___INDUSTRY	___POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	___OTHER (SPECIFY)
		___INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Damariscotta was originally a part of two towns, Bristol and Nobleboro. Before its incorporation as a town in 1847, it was called Walpole. Located on the Eastern shore of the Damariscotta River, at the head of navigable waters, it is within the bounds of the first deed given in the territory of the state, by Samoset, to John Brown in 1625.

John Brown lived in the area of the present town for fifty years. At the time of King Phillip's War, he and his family fled to Boston, but his son returned and settled in the vicinity. After 1730 settlement increased in Sheepscot, Newcastle and Bristol. The first dwelling house to appear in what was to be Damariscotta was built in 1754. Other dwellings followed and the settlement grew as shipbuilding prospered.

A fire in 1845 destroyed all the buildings in the present district but three: the Cottrill, Austin and Fly Houses. The main street was rebuilt quickly, materials coming forth from the brickyards along the river. By 1875 all the buildings in the district as we know it today had been constructed, with the exception of three modern structures: the First National Building, the Colby and Gale Mobil Station and the Damariscotta Bank and Trust Company Building, and three buildings of the late 19th century; two stores and the William Metcalf Livery Stable.

Fortunately the buildings in the district have been little altered. Their original character remains. The commercial purposes for which they were built remains the same, with variations. (The Cottrill House is presently a dental office, the Metcalf Livery is two shops, the Austin House is a clothing shop.)

During the middle of the 19th century when most of the buildings were built, Damariscotta, although too far from the ocean to be an important seaport, was ideally located for shipbuilding, an industry which was carried on in a large scale. The post-fire commercial development of Main Street was largely based on economic prosperity derived from this activity.

Architecturally, Main Street faithfully retains its mid-century stylistic ambiance. Later structures have, fortunately, been compatibly designed for the most part and retain the prevailing scale.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Castner Papers. Unpublished ms., Skidompha Library, Damariscotta.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,9 4,5,7,2,6,0 4,8,7,5,5,3,0
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C 1,9 4,5,7,4,2,0 4,8,7,5,3,4,0

B 1,9 4,5,7,4,6,5 4,8,7,5,4,2,5
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D 1,9 4,5,7,2,4,5 4,8,7,5,4,5,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning on Main Street at the northeasterly corner of the Professional Building (1) lot, the district boundary runs southerly along the east property line and westerly along the rear property lines of this building and those on the south side of Main Street to the southwest corner of the Metcalf Livery Stable (13) lot where it turns northerly along the west property line of this building, crosses Main Street and runs along the west property line of the Page Block (14) to the northwest corner of that lot. The line then runs easterly following the rear property lines of the buildings on (see continuation sheet)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Jefferson C. Cotton, Architectural Surveyor
Frank A. Beard, Historian/Robert L. Bradley

ORGANIZATION Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE April, 1979

STREET & NUMBER 242 State Street TELEPHONE 207/289-2133

CITY OR TOWN Augusta. STATE Maine

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL ✓

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

S. H. P. O.

DATE

5/18/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: Bruce M. Boyd
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 8-10-79
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
DATE 8/10/79

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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District Property Owners

Map #

1. Mr. & Mrs. Perley Walts, Damariscotta, Maine (04543)
Gordon Vannah " "
2. Howard Reed, Damariscotta
3. Louis R. French, Damariscotta
4. Mrs. Ethel Dickenson, Damariscotta
5. Robert F. Colquhoun, 25 Lackawanna Place, Bloomfield, N.J. 07003
Grevis Melville, Damariscotta
6. Michael Webster, Newcastle, Maine 04553
7. Neil Sprague, c/o Colby & Gale, Damariscotta
8. Edwin W. Keene, Damariscotta
9. John Hilton, c/o Cheney Realty & Insurance, Damariscotta
10. Rivercrest, Inc., attn. James Webber, Damariscotta
11. Paul H. Hanley, c/o A.H. Benoit & Co., Monument Sq., Portland, Maine 04101
12. Paul H. Hanley, " " " " "
13. The Pier, Inc., Mr. & Mrs. Carl Sanford, Damariscotta
14. Dr. Joseph Griffin, Damariscotta
15. Dr. Joseph Griffin, "
16. Peter Van der Kief, c/o Margo Moore Shop, Damariscotta
17. Dr. Neil L. Parsons, Damariscotta
18. Damariscotta Bank & Trust Co., attn. Paul Beckman, Damariscotta
19. Chapman & Chapman, attn. John Chapman, Damariscotta

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20. Briggs Pharmacy, Arnold Briggs, Damariscotta
21. R. H. Reny, Inc., attn. Robert Reny, Damariscotta
22. Clark's Spa, Mrs. William Clark, Damariscotta
23. & 24. Rivercrest, Inc., attn. James Webber, Damariscotta
25. Lincoln Block, Inc., attn. Denham Pierce, Damariscotta

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16. Nathaniel Austin House: c.1832, Federal, 2½ stories, frame with clapboard siding.
17. Rufus Fly House: c.1810, Federal, 2½ stories, frame with clapboard siding.
18. Damariscotta Bank & Trust Company: 1973, Colonial Revival, 2½ stories, brick with wood and stone trim.
19. Henry Mellus Block: c.1846, Greek Revival, 2½ stories, brick with wood and granite trim.
20. Asa Snow Block: c.1846, Greek Revival, 2½ stories, brick with wood and granite trim. Wrought-iron detail over arched side door. The first block to be completed following the fire of 1845.
21. Dr. Robert Dixon Block: c.1846, Greek Revival, 2½ stories, brick with wood and granite trim.
22. David W. Chapman Building: by 1857 (c.1846), Greek Revival, 2 stories, brick with wood and granite trim.
23. Isaac Genthner Block: 1850, Greek Revival, 3½ stories, brick with wood and granite trim.
24. Day Block: 1850, Greek Revival, 3½ stories, brick with wood and granite trim.
25. Lincoln Hall Block: 1875, Italianate, 2 stories, brick with wood and granite trim.

Nonconforming intrusion detracting from the integrity of the district:

7. Mobil Gasoline Station: 1934, 1 story, frame with shingle and brick facing.

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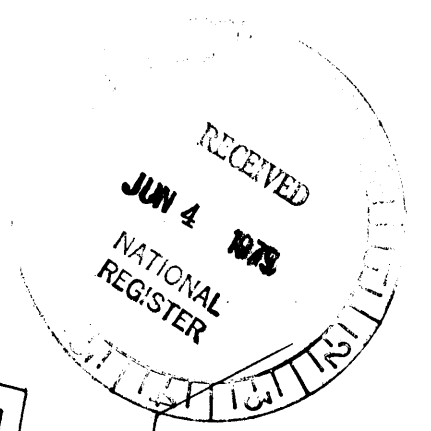
DATE ENTERED

AUG 10 1979

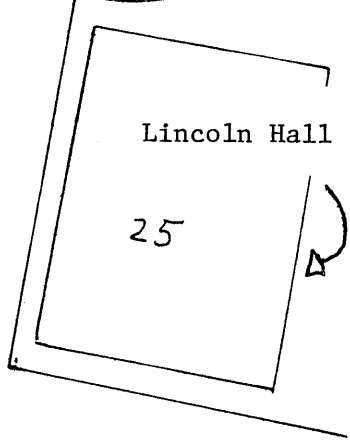
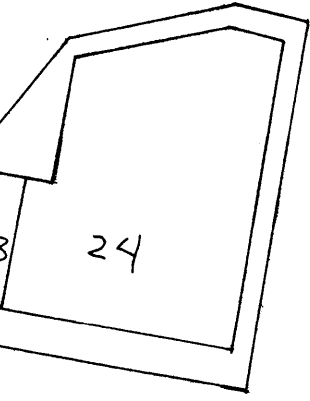
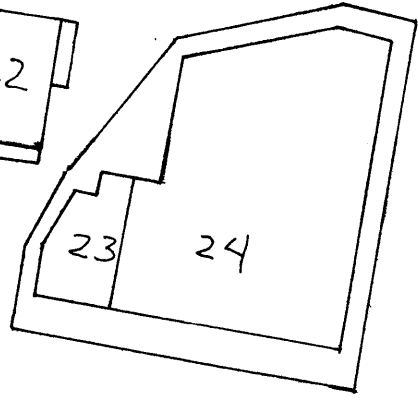
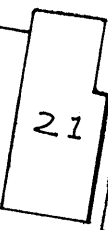
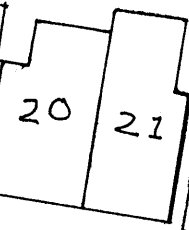
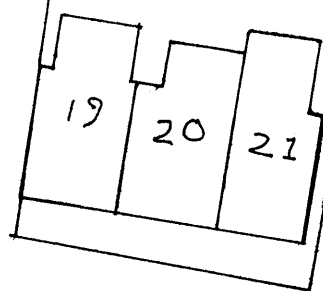
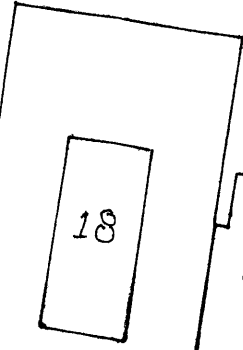
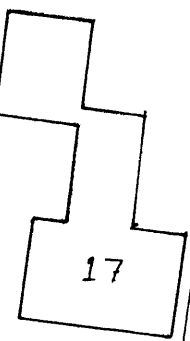
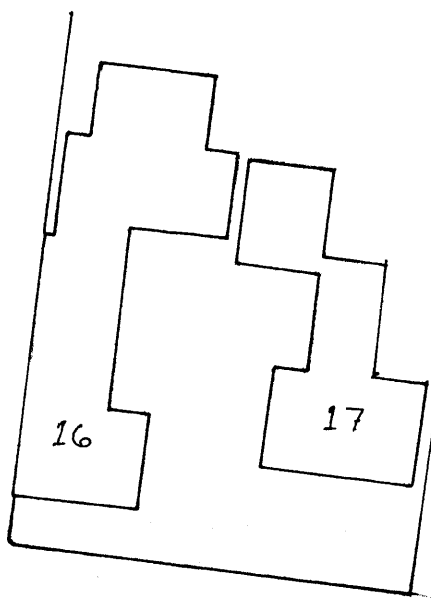
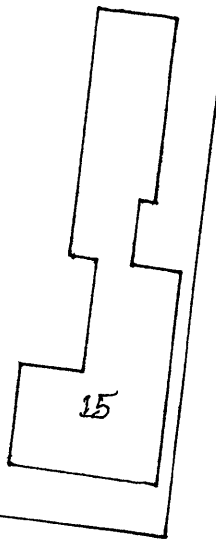
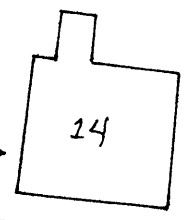
CONTINUATION SHEET

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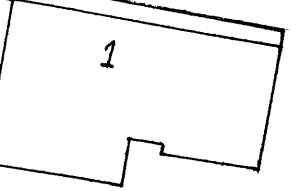
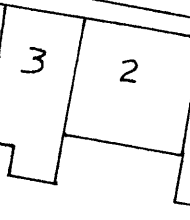
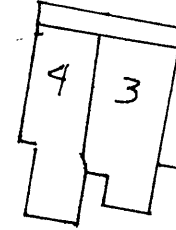
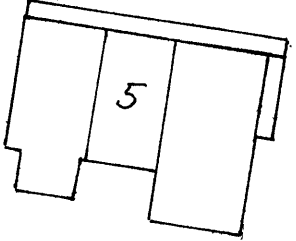
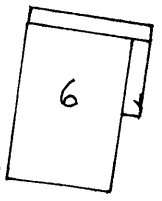
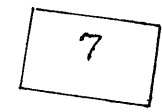
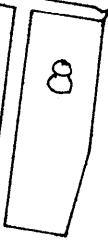
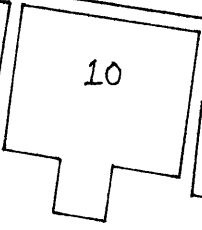
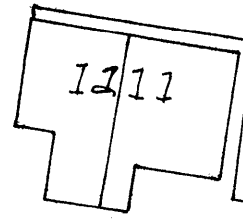
the north side of Main Street to the northeast corner of the Lincoln Hall (25)
lot where it turns southerly running along the east line of this property to
Main Street which it crosses to the point of beginning.



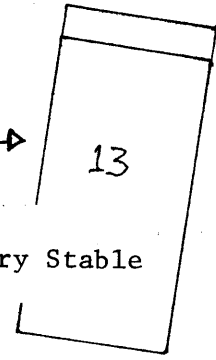
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MAIN STREET

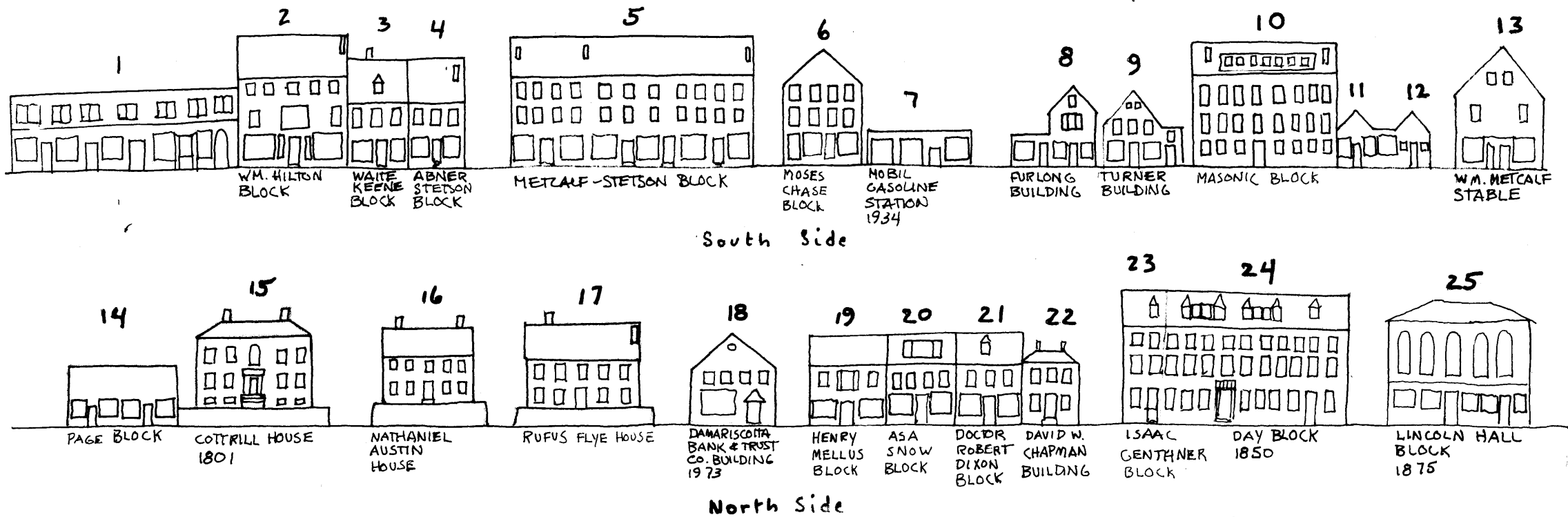


Metcalf Livery Stable



MAIN STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT
Damariscotta, Maine

Professional Building



Main Street Historic District
Damariscotta, Maine

Facade Sketch

